

VESTIGES of Lands End

ASHEN HEAPS.

The Cliff House Is a
Reminiscence.

BURNED TO ITS BASE.

Flames Do Their Work in
Two Short Hours.

FULL STORY OF THE FIRE

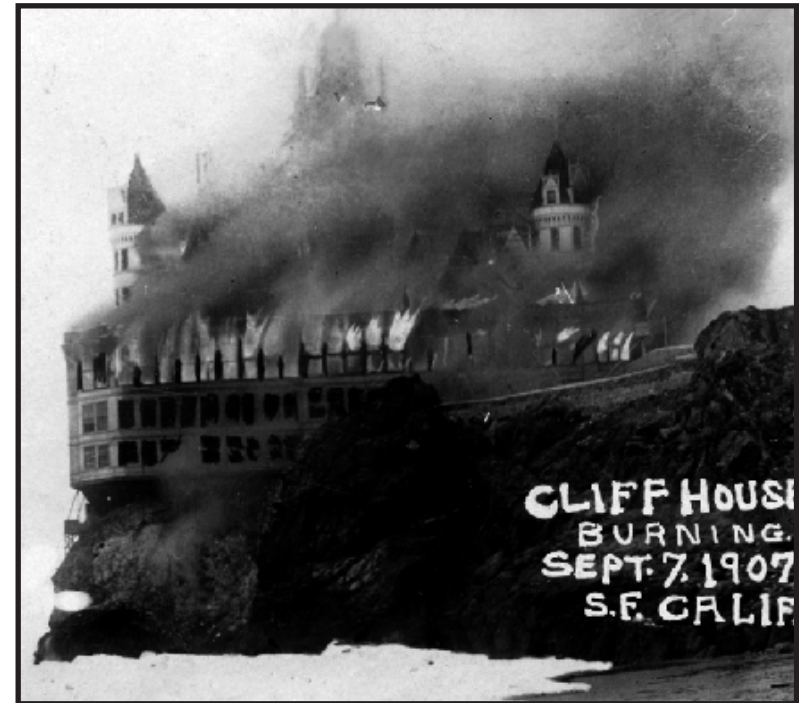
Told by Mayor-Elect Sutro and
Lessee Wilkins.

RARE SOUVENIRS DESTROYED.

History of a Place Known the World
Over and Visited by Every
Comer to San Francisco.



THE CLIFF HOUSE IN FLAMES.
(Sketches by a Calif. artist.)



Left: Headline and sketch from *San Francisco Call*, December 26, 1894. Right: Cliff House engulfed in flames, September 7, 1907.

Cliff House Fires

The Cliff House has been destroyed by fire and rebuilt twice since it opened in 1863. On Christmas Day 1894, a fire started in a defective chimney flue. It burned the Cliff House to the ground. Adolph Sutro rebuilt a new Cliff House in the same location in an extravagant Victorian style that became the most iconic of all the Cliff House's incarnations.

Only 11 years later fire again reduced the Cliff House to ashes and rubble. The Cliff House had been closed for renovations when the fire occurred. Its cause was never determined. Sutro's daughter, Emma Sutro Merritt, rebuilt a third Cliff House at the same location in a less grandiose, Neo-Classical style.